

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 15539 01 OF 02 111541Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 ICA-20
NSC-05 OES-09 OMB-01 /077 W
-----047532 111617Z /40
P 111526Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8306

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BRUSSELS 15539

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, BE
SUBJECT: BRIEFING MATERIALS ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS
CONTROL

REF: STATE 201547

AS REQUESTED REFTEL, EMBASSY TRANSMITS REVISED TEXT OF
STATEMENT ON BELGIUM:

BEGIN TEXT:

DURING RECENT YEARS BELGIUM HAS BECOME A SIGNIFICANT
TRANSSHIPMENT POINT FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN HEROIN EN ROUTE
TO THE ILLICIT MARKET IN AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND. OVER 40
KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN ARRIVING FROM THE FAR EAST WERE SEIZED
AT BRUSSELS SAVENTEM AIRPORT DURING THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS
OF 1978.

INVESTIGATION FOLLOWING A RECENT SEIZURE IN BRUSSELS OF
24.5 KILOGRAMS OF PURE COCAINE ESTABLISHED THAT THE CAPI-
TAL CITY WAS THE SEAT OF A MAJOR COCAINE DISTRIBUTION RING
SUPPLYING TRAFFICKERS IN OTHER WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

IN SPITE OF THE LARGE QUANTITIES OF HARD DRUGS SEIZED
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 15539 01 OF 02 111541Z

WITHIN ITS BORDERS, BELGIUM'S ADDICT POPULATION HAS RISEN
ONLY SLIGHTLY AND HAS STABILIZED AT A RELATIVELY LOW
LEVEL.

MARIHUANA AND HASHISH ARE THE MOST COMMONLY ABUSED DRUGS.

ALTHOUGH THE DRUG PROBLEM HAS NOT YET REACHED MAJOR PRO-

PORTIONS, LOCAL AUTHORITIES ARE CONCERNED THAT THE WIDESPREAD AVAILABILITY OF DRUGS OF ALL KINDS IN THE NETHERLANDS WILL SOONER OR LATER SPREAD INTO BELGIUM. DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS.

THE BELGIAN NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUG LAWS, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT IN OCTOBER 1975, DO NOT DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN HARD AND SOFT DRUGS. THE LAW PROVIDES FOR CRIMINAL PENALTIES RANGING FROM 3 MONTHS TO FIVE YEARS AND/OR A FINE OF \$32 TO \$32,000 FOR ANYONE WHO IMPORTS, EXPORTS, FABRICATES, TRANSPORTS, POSSESSES OR SELLS ILLICIT DRUGS. PROVISIONS FOR MORE SEVERE PENALTIES (20 YEARS OR HARD LABOR) EXIST IN CASES INVOLVING THE SALE OF DRUGS TO A MINOR OR OF BEING FOUND GUILTY OF BEING A PARTY TO ORGANIZED DRUG TRAFFIC.

A LEGISLATIVE EFFORT TO PROVIDE FOR REHABILITATION OF DRUG USERS FAILED LARGELY BECAUSE OF A RELUCTANCE TO FINANCE THE NECESSARY REHABILITATION EFFORTS.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT IS THE SHARED RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GENDARMERIE, JUDICIAL POLICE AND CITY POLICE UNITS. THE BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INFORMATION, ESTABLISHED IN 1971 UNDER THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, ALSO ASSISTS THE ABOVE AGENCIES BY PROVIDING THEM WITH DRUG RELATED INTELLIGENCE COLLECTED BY WAY OF UNDERCOVER PENETRATION AND/OR UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 15539 01 OF 02 111541Z

INFORMANTS. EXTENSIVE TRAINING PROVIDED BY THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVING BELGIAN DRUG ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS. INTER-AGENCY RIVALRY, HOWEVER, CONTINUES TO HAMPER THEIR EFFECTIVENESS.

BELGIUM HAS NOT YET RATIFIED THE PROTOCOL TO AMEND THE 1961 SINGLE CONVENTION OR THE CONVENTION ON PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS. THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED THAT, STARTING IN 1977, ANNUAL PLEDGES OF \$26,300 WOULD BE MADE TO THE UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL.

U.S. PROGRAMS.

THE BELGIANS HAVE CLEARLY INDICATED THAT THEY WANT A MORE EFFECTIVE DRUG ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM, AND ARE CONTINUING TO COOPERATE WITH THE USG, OTHER GOVERNMENTS, AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL. THREE GENDARMERIE OFFICIALS AND ONE JUDICIAL POLICE OFFICER HAVE RECEIVED DEA INSTRUCTOR TRAINING IN THE UNITED STATES. THIS IS VIEWED AS FIRST STEP IN GOVERNMENT RAISING THE LEVEL OF ITS OWN DRUG ENFORCEMENT TRAIN-

ING CAPABILITY. THE OFFICERS, WITH ASSISTANCE FROM DEA,
ARE SCHEDULED TO CONDUCT THEIR FIRST TWO-WEEK CLASS
IN AUGUST 1978.

A DEA TRAINING PROGRAM ORIENTED TOWARD INTELLIGENCE
COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS IS ALSO SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER
1978. FIFTEEN POLICE AND GENDARMERIE MID-LEVEL OFFICIALS
WILL ATTEND.

TWO DEA REPRESENTATIVES AND A U.S. CUSTOMS ATTACHE ARE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 15539 02 OF 02 111540Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 ICA-20
NSC-05 OES-09 OMB-01 /077 W
-----047502 111616Z /40

P 111526Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8307

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 BRUSSELS 15539

CURRENTLY ASSIGNED TO BRUSSELS. CHAMBERS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NARCOTICS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BRUSSE15539
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780328-1233
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780871/aaaacgtq.tel
Line Count: 150
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d1c68264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 201547
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1759727
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRIEFING MATERIALS ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL
TAGS: SNAR, BE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d1c68264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014